

REPORTS

OF THE

SELECTMEN, TREASURER,

AND

SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

OF THE

TOWN OF HUDSON,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1ST, 1879.

NASHUA:

M. V. B. GREENE, PRINTER, STATIONER AND BINDER.

1879.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

Taxes assessed in April, 1878.

Total amount assessed and committed Collector, including State, County, Town, School and Non-Resi- dent highway tax,	\$4,999 19	
Dog tax,	115 00	
	<hr/>	\$5,114 19
Total amount collected, abatements included,	\$4,293 73	
Amount not collected,	820 42	
	<hr/>	\$5,114 19

RECEIPTS BY THE SELECTMEN.

Received of city of Nashua for lighting T. F. bridge, 1877,	\$48 45	
Received of State Treasurer, Railroad tax,	229 20	
State Treasurer, Insurance tax,	4 50	
State Treasurer, Savings Bank tax,	941 30	
State Treasurer, Literary Fund,	88 43	
	<hr/>	\$1,311 88

TOWN EXPENSES.

Highways and Bridges.

Paid David Barnard, stringers for bridge,	\$2 70
T. J. Ford, labor on highway,	10 00
J. M. Thompson, cash paid for labor on highway near J. H. Shaw,	35 17
Robert Groves, labor and cash paid to repair highway,	44 34
Robert Groves, labor and gravel for highway,	10 50
W. F. Winn, for bridge plank,	11 78
Daniel G. Burns, labor on high- way near Lawrence corner,	46 25
Moses Butler, labor on highway,	6 00
W. S. Weston, building culvert,	9 55
S. D. Greeley, gravel to repair highway,	3 00
A. E. Gay, drain pipe,	9 90
F. A. Hills, labor on highway,	7 98
L. F. Robinson, " "	8 48
F. D. Cook, plank for Hadley bridge,	6 80
George W. Marshal, snowing T. F. bridge to Mar. 1, 1879,	10 00
Alvah Walker & Co., 20 gallons of oil for T. F. bridge,	20 90
C. W. Spaulding, public water- ing trough,	3 00
J. K. Wheeler, public watering trough,	3 00
David Clement, public watering trough,	3 00

Paid Charles L. Spalding, non-resi-	
dent highway tax worked	
out,	\$57 88
L. M. Tolles, cash paid for labor	
on Corliss hill,	4 00
Hiram Cummings, spikes and	
planking Hadley bridge,	1 53
	<hr/>
	*\$315 76

BREAKING ROADS IN 1877.

Paid Isaac Hall	\$1 57
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INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.

Paid J. M. Thompson cash paid for	
stationery, invoice and high-	
way surveyors' books,	\$11 77
James Emery, cash paid for	
Treasurer's book,	4 50
M. V. B. Greene printing town	
reports for 1878,	31 22
Stevens & Parker, council for	
town in 1876,	5 00
Isaac N. Smith book case for	
town hall,	14 00
J. H. Thurber for insuring T. F.	
bridge one year,	45 00
M. V. B. Greene printing check	
list, record book & warrants,	10 25
Willis L. Fuller services as po-	
lice and one pair hand cuffs,	6 50

Paid Chas. L. Spalding, paying State and county tax and print- ing tax bills,	\$9 70	
Thomas Hill abatement of taxes in 1877,	12 80	
Thomas Hill abatement of dog tax in 1877,	3 00	
Bounty on foxes,	3 50	
Bounty on hawks,	25 00	
J. B. Merrill material for and building tramp house,	52 61	
L. M. Tolles blankets and fur- nishings for tramp house,	3 77	
James Emery cash paid for re- pairing chandelier and wood for town hall,	6 15	
James Ryan damage to sleigh on highway,	75	
L. M. Tolles posts for railing and guide board,	1 50	
Hudson Grange over assessment of taxes in 1877,	3 24	
Fred A. Cutter over assessment	82	
Charles L. Spalding abatements in 1878,	8 23	
Cash for Police badge,	2 82	
William O. Austin over assess- ment in '78,	63	
J. M. Thompson cash paid for record- ing deed and copy of di- vorce case,	2 19	
	<hr/>	\$264 95

TOWN OFFICERS, 1878.

Paid James Emery, services as Town Clerk,	\$20 00
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Paid James Emery, services as Town treasurer,	\$20 00	
A. F. Baxter, school committee,	50 00	
Charles L. Spaulding, collector in 1878, in part,	65 00	
W. F. Winn, selectman and overseer of the poor,	55 00	
L. M. Tolles, selectman and overseer poor,	60 00	
J. M. Thompson, selectman and overseer poor,	100 00	
	-----	\$370 00

NOTES AND INTEREST PAID.

Paid Betsy Baldwin, note and interest	\$183 21	
John Webster, " "	530 59	
Emeline Cummings, indorsement on note,	300 00	
	-----	\$1,013 80

SCHOOL MONEY.

Paid Sidney P. Gowing, Dist. No. 1,	\$143 39	
H. T. Colburn, " " 2,	143 39	
George H. Davis, " " 3,	101 80	
Hiram Cummings, " " 4,	143 39	
Henry Butler, " " 5,	132 00	
Clifton M. Hills, " " 6,	143 39	
Peter E. Willard, " " 7,	116 49	
Orlando G. Hills, " " 8,	116 49	
George W. Wood, " " 9,	116 49	
H. A. Marshall, " " 10,	116 49	
	-----	\$1,273 32

STATE AND COUNTY TAX.

Paid State tax,	\$1,384 00	
County tax,	1,075 60	
	<hr/>	\$2,459 60

EXPENSE OF POOR.

Paid for relief of Luke Burns,	\$78 00	
“ “ James Cutter,	59 46	
Tyler Thomas, boarding Jona.		
Sprake,	155 50	
Wm. H. Taylor, boarding Wm.		
W. Miller,	52 00	
For relief Wm. H. Smith,	26 07	
George L. Doughty, lodging		
tramps,	4 50	
G. W. Trow, lodging tramps,	3 00	
Alfred Eaton, “ “	11 25	
L. F. Robinson, “ “	8 00	
J. M. Thompson, “ “	10 50	
Ezra A. Martin, lodging	86	
tramps and care of tramp		
house,	17 20	
W. P. Walton crackers for		
tramps,	3 50	
	<hr/>	\$428 98

RECAPITULATION.

Paid on account of highways and	
bridges,	\$315 76
Breaking roads 1877,	1 57
Incidental expenses,	264 95

Paid Expenses of poor,	\$428 98	
Salaries of town officers 1878,	370 00	
School money,	1,273 32	
Notes and interest,	1,013 80	
State and county tax,	2,459 60	
	<hr/>	\$6,127 98

Total amount of orders drawn for the
year ending March, 1879, \$6,127 98

Outstanding orders drawn on the treas-
ury for damages to domestic ani-
mals by dogs, payable on or af-
ter the first of April next.

Franklin Wilson,	\$40 00	
J. K. Wheeler,	20 00	
Dustin B. Smith,	10 00	
Daniel Gage,	5 00	
	<hr/>	\$75 00

LIABILITIES.

DEMAND NOTES.

Martha W. Marsh,	\$231 70	
Alden E. Cummings,	1,465 97	
Amory Burnham, two notes,	3,649 32	
Charles H. Newcomb,	1,102 50	
	<hr/>	
Total amount of notes,		\$6,449 49
Dog tax for '77 & '78 less outstand- ing orders,		146 00
Due School District No. 3,	\$26 76	
“ “ “ 5,	68 60	
	<hr/>	95 36
		<hr/>
Total Liabilities,		\$6,690 85

ASSETS.

NOTES AND BILLS DUE.

J. L. & C. E. Senter, note,	\$898 88	
Joseph Fuller,	154 12	
City of Nashua lighting T. F. bridge,	10 45	
Thomas Hill's tax list 1877,	219 51	
Due from C. L. Spalding, collector,		
interest not included,	820 42	
Cash in treasury,	1,692 14	
Total assets,	————	\$3,795 52
Actual debt of the town,		\$2,895 33
Decrease of debt for the year ending		
March 1, 1879,		\$983 31

J. M. THOMPSON,

L. M. TOLLES,

W. F. WINN,

Selectmen of Hudson.

TREASURER'S REPORT

FOR 1879.

To cash in Treasury, March 1, 1878,	\$1,482 19
Received of Thomas Hill, collector for 1877,	\$698 08
Thomas Hill, interest on taxes for 1877,	25 35
Charles L. Spalding collector for the year 1878,	4,293 77
Charles L. Spalding, interest on tax,	8 85
John M. Thompson, for the city of Nashua, for lighting T. F. bridge,	48 45
State Treasurer Savings Bank tax,	941 30
State Treasurer, railroad tax,	229 20
State Treasurer, literary fund,	88 43
State Treasurer, Insurance tax,	4 50
Total amount of receipts,	<hr/> \$7,820 12
Paid 114 Treasurer's orders for the year ending March 1st, 1879, amounting to	\$6,127 98
Cash in the Treasury March 1st, 1879,	<hr/> \$1,692 14

JAMES EMERY,
Treasurer for the Town of Hudson.

We have this day examined the foregoing accounts of James Emery, Town Treasurer, and find them correctly cast and each payment properly vouched.

J. M. THOMPSON,

L. M. TOLLES,

W. F. WINN,

Selectmen of Hudson.

March 1st, 1879.

SCHOOL REPORT.

There has been no radical change in our schools during the past year, therefore an extended report is not needed, accordingly our views of the educational interests of the town will be given as briefly as possible. And here it may be proper for us to state the opinion, that one year gives the Committee little more than an introduction to the schools and scholars, hence the office should be conferred upon a permanent resident of the town, who could be re-elected for as many successive years as his gifts and usefulness might warrant. It is patent to every one that a thorough acquaintance with every district is necessary to a proper discharge of these duties.

It is quite as plain that considerable time is required to form such acquaintance. The want of this information has led your Committee to refrain from changing text books, though it is evident that something in this line might be done to advantage. A few remarks under this head will express our views, and direct attention to this subject. To effect these changes, it is necessary that the citizens should heartily co-operate with the Committee. A failure to do this, by reason of the trifling expense incurred, has often proved a serious embarrassment to a much needed change.

GRAMMAR.

Those now in use in the schools of this town are greatly excelled in every point of view, by more recent publications.

A substitution of the latter for the former would add zeal to the pursuit of this study.

The Geographies now in use, though of modern date, and coming to us highly recommended, have, we think, generally disappointed expectations, and should as soon as practicable, be superseded by the incomparable Work of Harpers, whose superior merits are obvious to the most casual observer.

ARITHMETICS.

Greenleaf's Mathematic still enjoy a wide and well established reputation, and if our schools were supplied with the *latest* edition, it would meet the requirement in this department as well as any other.

READERS.

We see no special advantage promised by a change of Readers. Proficiency in this branch of study, more than in some others, depends upon the teacher rather than the text book. The question is not *what* we read, but *how* we read it, and this depends upon the ability of the instructor under whose tutorage we are placed.

SPELLING

Is an exercise concerning which there are so many minds as to the best authority, best book, and mode of conducting this study, that it will avail little, perhaps, for us to express an opinion.

WRITING.

We have endeavored to direct special attention to this branch. So necessary is some proficiency in this art to the most commonplace individual and occupation, that we cannot be too much exercised in regard to it. It should be rigidly insisted upon that every scholar in our schools should

pursue this study, inasmuch as the common school is the only one which many of them will ever attend.

MAP-DRAWING.

We are glad to observe an increasing interest in this very attractive and instructive art, and experience has proved it to be practicable, even in our smallest schools.

THE SCHOOL HOUSES

Of Hudson, for ought we know, compare favorably with those of other towns, nevertheless, many of them might be much improved, at very little expense. When we consider the effects that surroundings have upon the aesthetic nature, we feel the necessity of having comfortable and attractive buildings and appointments for those who are passing through the plastic and formative period of youth. In answer to the objection that property of this kind is so abused that it will not pay to invest more than is barely necessary, we will say, if we want *good* care taken of our property, let us have a good thing to take care of.

District No. 1 has erected a new house at a cost of ten hundred and sixty-three dollars, a model of architectural beauty, furnished in the latest and most approved style. It does credit to the town as well as the district, and sets before us an example worthy of imitation.

DIVISION OF DISTRICTS.

A long time has elapsed since the town set the present limits to the school districts. Many changes have taken place in reference to location since that time; property has been frequently set off from one district to another for schooling purposes. Similar changes will from time to time become desirable. Two petitions of this character have been formally presented to the proper authorities during the year. The School Committee and Selectmen not concurring in a decision, both petitions were lost.

GENERAL REMARKS.

It is due to the Institution, as well as those who come from it, that we should say a word in favor of the Normal School. "Sending *our John* to school won't give him brains we know," but if John *has* brains, the *best* school will the *best* develop them, so it occurs, that while, perhaps, there is no difference in natural ability, those teachers who enjoy the benefit of these Institutions are better qualified for their work than those who do not, and it is not impossible, (as was remarked by our predecessor,) that the time will come when these teachers will be employed in preference to others. We trust, however, that these remarks will not be construed disparagingly to the efforts of our home talent employed, who have without exception done acceptable and efficient work.

As we said at the outset, there has been no great change in the condition of the schools during the year, though we trust some progress has been made in all branches of study. Most of the teachers have proved to be competent instructors.

One or two have been somewhat deficient in general discipline. It is not to be expected that children of all ages, in a mixed school, can be made to observe that decorum which is required of more advanced scholars, or those in graded schools, yet it should be the effort of every teacher to approximate this standard.

On the whole, we think the teachers have done their work acceptably, and succeeded in awakening a desire for knowledge and respectability among the scholars. We can hardly overestimate the importance of having parents heartily co-operate with the teachers in securing regular attendance and obedience to the just requirements of the teacher. Our schools suffer from no one cause more than the irregular attendance of pupils. Some scholars find it difficult to keep pace with their classmates, simply because they are so frequently absent from recitation.

Parents sometimes permit their children to be excused from school upon the most trivial pretense, and then wonder why they do not make that progress that other scholars do who are constant and industrious during the entire term.

We cannot close without alluding to the fact that every school-house in town, with one exception, is in need of a better supply of apparatus, such as wall maps, globes, clock, unabridged dictionary, etc., which are in constant demand, and are of great value to both teachers and scholar.

Trusting that the interest of this town in the education of its youth will correspond with its prosperity,

We respectfully submit this report.

A. F. BAXTER,

Supt. School Committee, Hudson, N. H.

STATISTICS.

No. of District.	Which Term.	NAME OF TEACHER.	No. Weeks in Term.	No. of Scholars.
No. 1.	Summer.	Alice Gould,	10.	9.
	Winter.	Alice L. Barron,	12.	13.
" 2.	Summer.	Lilly B. Atherton,	10.	24.
	Winter.	" " "	10.	26.
" 3.	Summer.	Jennie K. Marshall,	8.	4.
	Winter.	Alice L. Barron,	12.	13.
" 4.	Summer.	Anna M. Cummings,	9.	30.
	Winter.	" " "	11.	26.
" 5.	Summer.	Linnie F. Butler,	9.	22.
	Winter.	" " "	10.	23.
" 6.	Summer.	Clara F. Dodge,	10.	27.
	Winter.	Ella M. Dodge,	13.	28.
" 7.	Summer.	Alice D. Morse,	8.	17.
	Winter.	Susie Clark,	12.	16.
" 8.	Summer.	Clementine A. Young,	8.	7.
	Winter.	" " "	12.	14.
" 9.	Summer.	Susie Clark,	9.	11.
	Winter.	" " "	11.	11.
" 10.	Summer.	Josephine M. Melvin,	8.	8.
	Winter.	Clara F. Dodge,	11.	10.

There are 16 children in town between 5 and 15 years of age who have not attended school during the year.



1856
small